Date: 20th July 2021

Dear Editor in Chief

World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

Re: Choledochoscopy: An update, Manuscript NO.: 66085, Review

Many thanks for seeking peer reviews for our manuscript. We appreciate the time and expertise of peer reviewers. We submit the point by point response to the comments and have made edits in the manuscript.

<u>Reviewer 1:</u>

<u>Comment 1:</u>

I would like to praise the team of authors for an absolutely detailed and clear manuscript, Choledochoscopy: An update. Extensive work has been done, so highly valuable review material has created for beginners and advanced professionals in choledochoscopy. Thank you for your work!

<u>Response 1:</u>

Thank you for your approval of our manuscript!

<u>Reviewer 2:</u>

<u>Comment 1:</u>

In analyzing the conclusion of this review, I suggest that it be more incisive, in the matter of the routine use of this technique, as well as the future role of artificial intelligence.

<u>Response 1:</u>

Thank you for your comments. We have taken your advice and have attempted to provide more insight and foreshadowing for the future of the choledochoscopy in relation to artificial intelligence. We have made the following changes in red to the "Conclusion" section of the manuscript:

CONCLUSION

Choledochoscopy (for extrahepatic biliary procedures) and cholangioscopy (for intrahepatic biliary procedures) is a dynamic instrument, adapting to a myriad of different circumstances depending on its need. While they have been used interchangeably in some areas of the literature, a distinction between the two should be made depending on the situation. It serves a diagnostic purpose in the evaluation of biliary pathologies and aids in histology sampling. It also serves a therapeutic purpose in stone fragmentation and extraction and manages malignant lesions in the biliary tree. Collectively, the utility of this instrument has advanced tremendously in the recent

years, potentially overtaking conventional methods of diagnosis and treatment in the near future. Choledochoscopy is complementary to other endoscopic, interventional radiology, and operative techniques for biliary intervention as well. With the increasing ability of artificial intelligence to automate detection of pathologies and individualise training for endoscopists, a future pioneered by the use of choledochoscopy and cholangioscopy is promising.

Science Editor

Comment 1: The authors did not provide original pictures. Please provide the original figure documents. Please prepare and arrange the figures using PowerPoint to ensure that all graphs or arrows or text portions can be reprocessed by the editor

Response 1: The original picture for Figure 1 has been attached as a PowerPoint file.

Comment 2: If an author of a submission is re-using a figure or figures published elsewhere, or that is copyrighted, the author must provide documentation that the previous publisher or copyright holder has given permission for the figure to be re-published; and correctly indicating the reference source and copyrights.

Response 2: Figure 1 is an original figure and has not been reused or previously published elsewhere.

Additional edits:

1) Minor edits to grammar and language have been made throughout the paper.
2) A missing citation was added, and hence there has been a change in order of references. The exact references used and total number of references remains the same at 144.

We hope that above edits are considered acceptable to reviewer and editorial team.

Thanking you

Sincerely
Vishal G Shelat
Lee Tsinrong
Thomas Teng Zheng Jie